

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 1, 2012

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 112

Introduced by Assembly Member Campos

February 22, 2012

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 112—Relative to the 24th Annual State Scientist Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 112, as amended, Campos. 24th Annual State Scientist Day.

This measure would declare May 23, 2012, as the 24th Annual State Scientist Day, as a tribute to the dedication and professionalism of the state scientists who work on behalf of all the residents of California.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The state employs nearly 3,000 professional
2 scientists in over 30 state departments working in more than 230
3 scientific classifications; and
4 WHEREAS, State scientists hold graduate degrees in virtually
5 every scientific discipline, including nematology, virology,
6 seismology, epidemiology, toxicology, and many others; and
7 WHEREAS, State scientists are represented by the California
8 Association of Professional Scientists (CAPS), which is dedicated
9 to professionalism, independence, ~~responsible advocacy, and~~
10 ~~ensuring that state scientists receive fair pay and benefits for their~~
11 ~~important work; and~~
12 ~~WHEREAS, Governor Schwarzenegger wrote in October 2007~~
13 ~~that “I value the dedication and work of the State’s scientists, and~~
14 ~~I am concerned that salaries for this group may have fallen behind~~

1 ~~those of comparable workers” and that he wants to ensure “that~~
2 ~~the State is moving in the direction of achieving fair and equitable~~
3 ~~compensation for the scientists” and responsible advocacy; and~~

4 WHEREAS, The work of state scientists protects the public
5 from life-threatening diseases, safeguards our wildlife and abundant
6 natural resources, and protects our air and water from toxic waste
7 and pollution; and

8 WHEREAS, State scientists are required to make critical
9 decisions every day based on rigorous scientific factfinding, and
10 these decisions ultimately impact the lives and property of all
11 Californians; and

12 ~~WHEREAS, If this state loses its scientific expertise, the state~~
13 ~~will go unarmed in the battles against greenhouse gas emissions,~~
14 ~~air pollution, and the overall protection of children’s health,~~
15 ~~according to a 2006 California Environmental Protection Agency~~
16 ~~report; and~~

17 WHEREAS, State scientists perform important work in the areas
18 of infectious disease prevention, oil spill prevention and cleanup,
19 public health drinking water monitoring, the protection of
20 agricultural crops, brownfields mitigation, chemical and
21 radiological disaster response, and much more; and

22 WHEREAS, State scientists host an annual State Scientist Day
23 at the State Capitol to increase public awareness and recognition
24 of the significant contributions made by scientists working in state
25 government while entertaining and educating over 2,000
26 elementary school students with fun, hands-on science exhibits;
27 and

28 WHEREAS, State Scientist Day has sparked an interest in
29 science for thousands of California schoolchildren, legislators,
30 state employees, and the public, who attend the special event; now,
31 therefore, be it

32 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
33 *thereof concurring,* That May 23, 2012, shall be recognized as the
34 24th Annual State Scientist Day, and that this day shall be a tribute
35 to the dedication and professionalism of the state scientists who
36 work on behalf of all the residents of California; and be it further

37 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
38 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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